

Appl. No.: 10/770,119
Filed: February 2, 2004
Page 2

Amendments to the Claims: amendments to the claims are provided as indicated below.

1. **(Currently Amended)** A system for transporting a product via a carrier, the system comprising:

an environmental sensor physically associated with a product, the environmental sensor configured to record product environment data during transport of the product through the carrier's logistics network;

at least one scanner for reading the product environment data from the sensor at one or more locations within the carrier's logistics network; and

a computer connected to communicate with the at least one scanner, the computer configured for:

determining, based on the product environment data, whether the environmental condition of the product has transcended a limit during transport;

routing the product through the carrier's logistics network to a first receiver so long as the determining has not established that the environmental condition has transcended the limit; and

rerouting the product through the carrier's logistics network to a second receiver, different from the first receiver, if the determining establishes that the environmental condition has transcended the limit;

wherein the environmental sensor associated with said product comprises a visual indicator for indicating to handlers of said product that the environmental condition of said product has transcended a limit and said product is to be rerouted to said second receiver.

2. **(Previously Presented)** A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said rerouting comprises generating with the computer an updated transporting instruction that the computer transmits to at least one point within the carrier's logistics network for performance of transporting the product to said second receiver.

Appl. No.: 10/770,119
Filed: February 2, 2004
Page 3

3. **(Previously Presented)** A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sensor stores shipping address data for said first receiver and said second receiver.

4. **(Previously Presented)** A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the scanner is further used for scanning identification data associated with the product.

5. **(Original)** A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sensor generates time data and stores product environment data in association with the time data to indicate the time of sensing the environment condition.

6. **(Canceled)**

7. **(Currently Amended)** A system as claimed in claim [[6]]1, wherein the visual indicator comprises at least one light-emitting diode (LED) that illuminates in response to the environment condition to which the product is subjected transcending a limit.

8. **(Original)** A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sensor comprises a radio-frequency identification (RFID) sensor tag, and the scanner transmits and receives radio frequency signals from the tag in the performance of scanning the sensor.

9. **(Canceled)**

10. **(Previously Presented)** A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sensor is affixed to an outer surface of a container used for holding the product during transport.

11. **(Previously Presented)** A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sensor is positioned on the product.

Appl. No.: 10/770,119
Filed: February 2, 2004
Page 4

12. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the environmental condition sensed by the sensor to generate the product environment data includes at least one of temperature, pressure, vacuum, vibration, shock, humidity, moisture, light, air, and a chemical.

13. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sensor comprises a temperature sensor, and the product environment data generated by the sensor comprises at least one measurement of a temperature level to which the product has been exposed.

14. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sensor comprises a pressure sensor, and the product environment data generated by the pressure sensor comprises at least one measurement of a pressure level to which the product has been exposed.

15. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sensor comprises a vacuum sensor, and the product environment data generated by the vacuum sensor comprises at least one measurement of a vacuum level to which the product has been exposed.

16. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sensor comprises a light sensor, and the product environment data generated by the light sensor comprises at least one measurement of an amount of light to which the product has been exposed.

17. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sensor comprises a chemical sensor, and the product environment data generated by the chemical sensor comprises at least one measurement of an amount of a chemical to which the product has been exposed.

18. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sensor comprises an air sensor, and the product environment data generated by the air sensor comprises at least one measurement of an amount of air to which the product has been exposed.

Appl. No.: 10/770,119

Filed: February 2, 2004

Page 5

19. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sensor comprises a vibration sensor, and the product environment data generated by the vibration sensor comprises at least one measurement of an amount of vibration to which the product has been exposed.

20. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sensor comprises a shock sensor, and the product environment data generated by the shock sensor comprises at least one measurement of an amount of shock to which the product has been exposed.

21. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sensor comprises a humidity sensor, and the product environment data generated by the humidity sensor comprises at least one measurement of an amount of humidity to which the product has been exposed.

22. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sensor comprises a moisture sensor, and the product environment data generated by the moisture sensor comprises at least one measurement of an amount of moisture to which the product has been exposed.

23 – 25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said computer is further configured for:

receiving the product environment data in association with product identification data;

storing the product environment data in association with the product identification data in a database;

receiving tracking data in association with the product identification data, the tracking data identifying when and where at least one scanning of the product was performed within the carrier's logistics network; and

storing the tracking data in association with the product identification data and the product environment data in said database.

Appl. No.: 10/770,119
Filed: February 2, 2004
Page 6

27. **(Canceled)**

28. **(Previously Presented)** The system as claimed in claim 26, wherein the product identification data comprises a tracking identifier for uniquely identifying the product within the carrier's logistics network.

29. **(Currently Amended)** A method of transporting a product via a carrier, the method comprising:

physically associating an environmental sensor with the product;

reading product environment data from the environmental sensor at a location within the carrier's logistics network, the product environment data having been recorded by the environmental sensor during transport;

determining, based on the product environment data, whether the environmental condition of the product has transcended a limit during transport;

routing the product through the carrier's logistics network to a first receiver so long as the determining has not established that the environmental condition has transcended the limit; and

rerouting the product through the carrier's logistics network to a second receiver, different from the first receiver, if the determining establishes that the environmental condition has transcended the limit,

wherein the environmental sensor associated with said product comprises a visual indicator for indicating to handlers of said product that the environmental condition of said product has transcended a limit and said product is to be rerouted to said second receiver.

30. **(Previously Presented)** A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said rerouting comprises generating with a computer system an updated transporting instruction that the computer system transmits to at least one point within the carrier's logistics network for performance of transporting the product to said second receiver.

Appl. No.: 10/770,119
Filed: February 2, 2004
Page 7

31. **(Previously Presented)** A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein a shipping label associated with the product includes shipping address data indicating a shipping address of said first receiver.

32. **(Previously Presented)** A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the sensor stores shipping address data for said first receiver and said second receiver.

33 – 42. **(Canceled)**

43. **(Previously Presented)** A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the determining is performed by the sensor to produce determination data that is captured during said reading step.

44. **(Previously Presented)** A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the sensor generates time data and stores product environment data in association with the time data to indicate the time of sensing the environmental condition.

45. **(Canceled)**

46. **(Currently Amended)** A method as claimed in claim [[45]]29, wherein the visual indicator comprises at least one light-emitting diode (LED) that illuminates in response to the environment condition to which the product is subjected transcending the limit.

47 – 48. **(Canceled)**

49. **(Previously Presented)** A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the sensor comprises a radio-frequency identification (RFID) sensor tag, and a scanner performs said reading step by transmitting and receiving radio frequency signals from the tag.

Appl. No.: 10/770,119
Filed: February 2, 2004
Page 8

50. **(Canceled)**

51. **(Previously Presented)** A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the sensor is affixed to an outer surface of a container used for holding the product during transport.

52. **(Canceled)**

53. **(Original)** A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the environmental condition sensed by the sensor to generate the product environment data includes at least one of temperature, pressure, vacuum, vibration, shock, humidity, moisture, light, air, and a chemical.

54. **(Original)** A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the sensor comprises a temperature sensor, and the product environment data generated by the temperature sensor comprises at least one measurement of a temperature level to which the product has been exposed.

55. **(Original)** A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the sensor comprises a pressure sensor, and the product environment data generated by the pressure sensor comprises at least one measurement of a pressure level to which the product has been exposed.

56. **(Original)** A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the sensor comprises a vacuum sensor, and the product environment data generated by the vacuum sensor comprises at least one measurement of a vacuum level to which the product has been exposed.

57. **(Original)** A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the sensor comprises a light sensor, and the product environment data generated by the light sensor comprises at least one measurement of an amount of light to which the product has been exposed.

Appl. No.: 10/770,119

Filed: February 2, 2004

Page 9

58. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the sensor comprises a chemical sensor, and the product environment data generated by the chemical sensor comprises at least one measurement of an amount of a known chemical to which the product has been exposed.

59. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the sensor comprises an air sensor, and the product environment data generated by the air sensor comprises at least one measurement of an amount of air to which the product has been exposed.

60. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the sensor comprises a vibration sensor, and the product environment data generated by the vibration sensor comprises at least one measurement of an amount of vibration to which the product has been exposed.

61. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the sensor comprises a shock sensor, and the product environment data generated by the shock sensor comprises at least one measurement of an amount of shock to which the product has been exposed.

62. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the sensor comprises a humidity sensor, and the product environment data generated by the humidity sensor comprises at least one measurement of an amount of humidity to which the product has been exposed.

63. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the sensor comprises a moisture sensor, and the product environment data generated by the moisture sensor comprises at least one measurement of an amount of moisture to which the product has been exposed.

64 – 89. (Canceled)

Appl. No.: 10/770,119
Filed: February 2, 2004
Page 10

90. (New) The method of Claim 29, wherein said visual indicator comprises a sensor strip that changes color in response to the environmental condition of said product transcending a limit.

91. (New) The method of Claim 90, wherein the sensor strip comprises a paper thermometer or liquid crystal temperature strip that changes color in response to a change in temperature.

92. (New) The method of Claim 90, wherein the sensor strip comprises an electrochemical sensor strip that changes color in response to the presence of a chemical.

93. (New) The system of Claim 1, wherein said visual indicator comprises a sensor strip that changes color in response to the environmental condition of said product transcending a limit.

94. (New) The system of Claim 93, wherein the sensor strip comprises a paper thermometer or liquid crystal temperature strip that changes color in response to a change in temperature.

95. (New) The system of Claim 93, wherein the sensor strip comprises an electrochemical sensor strip that changes color in response to the presence of a chemical.